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CURRENT NOTES

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

Pursuant to the announcement printed in the January number of the JOURNAL, and to the program subsequently sent to the members, the Society held its first meeting since 1917 at Washington, on April 27-30, last. The meetings were well attended and the attendance was in fact so large that it overtaxed the accommodations which the committee had provided.

The general topic, "The Advancement of International Law," was considered in its fundamental aspects by the Honorable Elihu Root, President of the Society, in his presidential address delivered on opening the meeting on Wednesday evening, April 27. The address was not only well received, but has been pronounced by many who heard it as Mr. Root's greatest utterance on the subject of international law and relations. The address was extensively printed in the press of the country.

The Honorable Manoel de Oliveira Lima, former Minister of Brazil to Japan, Sweden, Belgium and Venezuela, also spoke on the same evening upon the subject of "The Reconstruction of International Law." His remarks were very interesting as giving the Latin-American point of view.

The topic was taken up more in detail the following day. On the morning of Thursday, April 28th, Mr. James Brown Scott spoke upon the "Advancement of International Law essential to an International Court of Justice."

The main consideration of the topic in detail was assigned to four subcommittees appointed in advance to submit reports to the Society. The subjects assigned to the subcommittees were as follows:

Subcommittee No. 1: To restate the established rules of international law, especially, and in the first instance, in the fields affected by the events of the recent war.

Subcommittee No. 2: To formulate and agree upon the amendments and additions, if any, to the rules of international law shown to be necessary or useful by the events of the war and the changes in the conditions of international life and intercourse which have followed the war.

Subcommittee No. 3: To endeavor to reconcile divergent views and secure general agreement upon the rules which have been in dispute heretofore.

Subcommittee No. 4: To consider the subjects not now adequately regulated by international law, but as to which the interests of international justice require that rules of law shall be declared and accepted.

A special subject to illustrate the work of each subcommittee was

assigned to particular speakers. Following Dr. Scott's address on Thursday morning, Mr. Lester H. Woolsey, former Solicitor for the Department of State, read a paper on the "Munitions Trade" as illustrative of the work of Subcommittee No. 1. Mr. Charles Cheney Hyde, Professor of International Law in Northwestern University, read a paper on "Conditional Contraband" as illustrative of the work of Subcommittee No. 2, and Mr. George Grafton Wilson, Professor of International Law in Harvard University, read a paper on "Continuous Voyage" as illustrative of the work of Subcommittee No. 3. Papers illustrative of the work of Subcommittee No. 4 were read at the evening session of Thursday, the 28th, as follows: "International Criminal Jurisdiction," by Mr. Jesse S. Reeves, Professor of Political Science in the University of Michigan; "The Status of International Cables in War and Peace," by Mr. Elihu Root, Jr., of the New York Bar; "The International Regulation of Aërial Navigation," by Mr. Arthur K. Kuhn, of the New York Bar.

The Committee for the Advancement of International Law held a general meeting on the morning of Friday, April 29th, to coordinate the work of the subcommittees. The subcommittees met during the afternoon of the same day and completed their reports, which were submitted to the Society at its general meeting on the evening of the 29th. The reports were submitted by the following Chairmen: Mr. Charles Noble Gregory, Subcommittee No. 1; Dr. Harry Pratt Judson, Subcommittee No. 2; Hon. Simeon E. Baldwin, Subcommittee No. 3; Professor Paul S. Reinsch, Subcommittee No. 4.

At the closing session of the Society on Saturday morning, April 30th, the reports were received and the Committee for the Advancement of International Law continued with instructions to submit further reports to the Society at its next meeting.

The Executive Council held two sessions during the meeting, the first on the afternoon of Thursday, April 28th, and the second on the morning of Saturday, April 30th, after the adjournment of the Society. In addition to the performance of its routine work, it adopted a recommendation, which was presented to the Society on the morning of April 30th, that the constitution of the Society be amended so as to provide that hereafter members of the Council shall not be eligible for reelection until after the lapse of one year from the expiration of their terms of office. This amendment will be submitted to and acted upon by the Society at its next annual meeting.

At the business meeting of the Society held on Saturday, April 30th, the amendment to the constitution proposed by the Council on November 13, 1920, relating to the charge for the Society's publications, was adopted. This amendment was set forth and explained in the January, 1921, number of the JOURNAL, page 76.

The members of the Society in attendance upon the meeting were

received at the White House by President Harding at 2.30 o'clock on the afternoon of Friday, April 29th.

The meeting closed with a banquet at the Shoreham Hotel on Saturday evening, April 30th. Mr. Root presided as toastmaster, and the speakers were Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, President of Columbia University in the City of New York, and the Honorable Charles Evans Hughes, Secretary of State of the United States. His Serene Highness, the Prince of Monaco, had accepted an invitation to be a guest at the banquet, but was prevented by illness from attending.

All of the papers, discussions and reports will be printed as usual in the volume of annual proceedings and sent to all members who subscribe. The subscription price is fixed by the Executive Council at \$1.50.

The following officers and committees were elected for the ensuing year:

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Subcommittee No. 2: To formulate and agree upon the amendments and additions, if any, to the rules of international law shown to be necessary or useful by the events of the war and the changes in the conditions of international life and intercourse which have followed the war.

Harry Pratt Judson, Chairman; Edwin M. Borchard, Sterling E. Edmunds, William I. Hull, Howard Thayer Kingsbury, Arthur K. Kuhn, John H. Latané, Raleigh C. Minor, Charles H. Stockton, James L. Tryon, Quincy Wright.

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Subcommittee No. 4: To consider the subjects not now adequately regulated by international law, but as to which the interests of international justice require that rules of law shall be declared and accepted.

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